

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/789,742

Examiner

Phuongchi Nguyen

Applicant(s)

MCGOWAN ET AL.

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

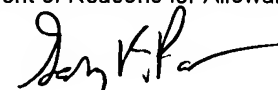
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____



Gary Paumen
Primary Examiner

EXAMINERS AMENDMENT AND REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

* In the specification:

+ Page 12, [0054], line 2, "pieces 114" has been changed to -- strips --.

+ Page 12, [0056], line 12, "130" has been changed to -- 120 --.

+ Page 13, [0058], line 4, "191" has been changed to -- 190 --.

+ Page 13, [0058], line 5, -- the top and bottom portions of -- has been inserted in between "and the" and "skeletal framework".

+ Page 16, [0067], line 3, "102" has been changed to -- 104 --.

* In the claim:

Claim 2, last line, after " terminals", -- . -- has been inserted.

Claim 18, line 17, --having -- has been inserted in between "housing halves" and "said frame"

3. Claims 1-20 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In regarding to claim 1, none of prior art teaches or suggests a high-density connector assembly comprising a conductive ground structure that encompasses the signal terminals, a pair of interengaging housing halves of the ground structure having a plurality of grooves formed in

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opposing faces thereof, the grooves supporting the frame in place between the housing halves such that each of the grooves receives a single terminal therein.

In regarding to claim 16, none of prior art teaches or suggests a connector comprising a conductive shield member including a base with a plurality of spaced-apart walls disposed thereon, the walls being received within the shell member slots such that the shield member base and walls define at least three conductive members that are located on three distinct sides of the channel in order to partially surround channels that extend along at least three sides of the terminals within the body channels.

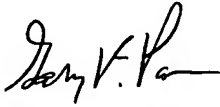
In regarding to claim 18, none of prior art teaches or suggests a connector comprising a conductive ground structure that encompasses the signal terminals, a pair of interengaging housing halves of the ground structure having the frame and terminals in place there between, a plurality of surface mount tail portions of the ground structure arranged along opposing edges of a mounting face and the difference in size between the narrow contact portions and the wide body portions promoting wicking of solder onto the ground structure surface mount tail portions.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PhuongChi Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-0729. The examiner can normally be reach on Monday through Thursday from 8:AM to 4:30PM.

PCN

September 27, 2004



Gary Paumen
Primary Examiner